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News Release

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**GREGG, SUNUNU: DEFENSE BILL SUPPORTS MILLIONS FOR SHIPYARD,
PEASE FIRE STATION, AND NEW HAMPSHIRE TECH-WORKERS**
Resources will help keep national defense strong

WASHINGTON, DC – In supporting passage of the FY 2004 Department of Defense Authorization Bill, U.S. Senators Judd Gregg and John Sununu (R-NH) recommended that the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Pease Air National Guard, and New Hampshire's hi-tech workers receive resources to help keep America's national defense strong.

“The Defense Authorization bill passed by the Senate today sends a strong signal that our military must have the support and resources it needs to conduct missions all over the world and to protect American freedoms and interests,” said Senator Gregg. “I am especially pleased that the legislation acknowledges the fine efforts of people who make up our armed forces by providing and across-the-board 3.7 percent pay raise and a targeted pay raise of up to 6.25 percent for mid-career personnel. This measure allows for the continuation of several key projects conducted around New Hampshire that each play an integral role in contributing to our national defense. I strongly support these initiatives and commend all of the men and women in New Hampshire who are helping to make our country a safer place to live.”

Senator Sununu stated, “In New Hampshire, New England, and across the country there are military facilities and companies that provide the work and ingenuity necessary to help keep America's armed forces strong. I am happy to support legislation that provides resources to allow them to continue this support mission.”

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“At Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, that means \$248 million for the overhaul and the refueling of the USS Jacksonville, a Los Angeles Class nuclear submarine; at Pease Air National Guard Base, \$6.1 million for fire station improvements there; and for hi-tech workers at Nashua’s BAE Systems, continued work on the electronic warfare system for the F/A-22 fighter jet,” Sununu continued.

The Defense Authorization Bill (S. 1050) passed the Senate on Thursday, May 22. The measure recommends spending levels of:

- \$248 million to refuel and overhaul the USS Jacksonville at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.
- \$3.5 billion for the F/A-22 fighter program, whose electronic warfare system is built by New Hampshire hi-tech workers to protect the fighter from missile attack
- \$6.1 million to improve the fire station at the Pease Air National Guard Base.
- \$3 million for researching and developing the Integrated Marine Mammal Monitoring and Protection System, which is being developed by Scientific Solutions in Nashua. protection
- \$13.6 million for the procurement of Panoramic Night Vision Goggles by Insight Technology in Londonderry.